

Dear Sirs:

I would like to file the following comment regarding Recommendation 3bi of EB Docket No. 06-119 which states:

“Waiver of amateur radio and license exempt rules permitting transmissions necessary to meet essential communications needs.”

I think that it would be reasonable to grant Novice, Technician, and Technician Plus licensees temporary General privileges specifically for the purpose of meeting “essential communications needs” in an area declared to be a “disaster area” by the President.

This waiver would provide a large cadre of amateur radio operators for assisting with handling essential communications. Requiring the operators to possess a class of amateur license below General would assure that all operators handling the essential communications would be at least minimally qualified to operate an amateur radio station properly.

Possibly, the temporary General privileges granted to lower class licensees could be indicated by appending “/EmComm” or some other appropriate suffix to the licensees’ callsigns. In addition, a statement could be added to the waiver indicating that lower class licensees would (1) be expected to follow good operating procedures with respect to all aspects of the communications that they provide and that they would (2) be expected to follow guidance from other licensees concerning the handling of all formal messages (to ensure that messages are in proper ICS or NTS format).

Sincerely yours,

Hugh C. Maddocks, Ph.D. (E.E.)  
Communications Systems Engineer  
K3SS